

Present: Dwight Baker; Andy Bennett; Hans Brandal; Ray Day, Jr.; Dave Elliott, Chair; John Jensen; Sandy Paul-Lyle; Holly Plackett; Anirudh Sahni; Joan Sells; Mike Taylor

Excused: John Coney, Vice-Chair; Dick Burkhardt

Staff: Barbara de Michele, Community Relations Planner; Gary Prince, Senior Project Manager, Transit-Oriented Development

Guest: Mary Foye, Assistant Manager, The Village at Overlake

Dave Elliott called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Tour and Discussion

The Transit Advisory Committee met at The Village at Overlake, a transit-oriented development created through partnerships between Metro and the City of Redmond and the King County Housing Authority. The meeting began with a tour of the property led by Foye and Prince. TAC members viewed the courtyard, a typical apartment, the playfield, the parking garage and transit center. Returning to the meeting room, the group then heard a brief presentation from Prince on the background of this TOD, as well as future TOD plans in Redmond, Renton and Northgate.

Transit NOW Letter

The TAC reviewed a draft letter prepared by Bennett and Brandal expressing the group's support for Transit NOW. At the end of the discussion, TAC directed staff to send the letter to the Executive with copies to the Regional Transit Committee and Transportation Committee. (see attached)

Vice Chair

Anirudh Sahni was selected as vice-chair. John Coney will assume the chair's position for July, August and September.

Adjournment

Elliott adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

TAC Meeting Notes

June 13, 2006

Page 2



King County

June 15, 2006

The Honorable Ron Sims
King County Executive
Bank of America Tower
701 – 5th Avenue
BOA-EX-3210
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Executive Sims:

The King County Transit Advisory Committee supports the “Transit NOW” proposal. The Transit Advisory Committee is an appointive body comprised of bus riders representing the diversity of King County's bus ridership. Our committee believes that “Transit NOW” will give people what they are asking for: more bus service more frequently. The following suggestions reflect our experiences as Metro patrons.

We ask that you, as King County Executive, submit for Council approval, and that the King County Council fully endorse, the “Transit NOW” proposed sales tax increase for voter approval this fall. The proposal covers the entire county. The proposed corridor improvements will lay the groundwork for a more efficient high capacity system capable of supporting the growth predicted for the next decade.

We encourage the Executive and the Council to promote partnerships with local jurisdictions and companies to stretch the transit dollar. Having additional groups come to the table to make local improvements will only help the system as a whole get better. The more stakeholders involved, the better our system will meet everyone's needs.

There are also cautionary concerns which should be recognized and stated. We have discussed the following and determined that they are insignificant relative to the proposal's potential benefits.

We ask that the Executive and the Council clearly state the improvement areas, ratios and goals. A significant group of the voting population does not like and may not consider writing a blank check. Realistically, some plans will be adjusted after public input.

We are concerned that the “funding cap” has been reached and there is no room for future income growth. New funding mechanisms will be required if future demand outstrips the allowable sales tax rate.

Having a tax increase for transportation improvements on the ballot this year may adversely effect next year's RTID and Sound Transit proposals. However, “Transit NOW” implementation will begin in one year while the other proposals may take decades, if approved by voters.

TAC Meeting Notes

June 13, 2006

Page 3



King County

The King County Transit Advisory Committee strongly recommends voting for and passing "Transit NOW". Efficient and reliable bus service is an essential element supporting the livability and economic vitality of King County and the region.

Sincerely,

Dave Elliott, Chair
King County Transit Advisory Committee

CC: The Honorable Reagan Dunn, Chair, Regional Transit Committee, King County Council
The Honorable Julia Patterson, Chair, Transportation Committee, King County Council
Members, Regional Transit Committee
Members, Transportation Committee
Arthur Thornbury, Principal Legislative Analyst, King County Council
Harold Taniguchi, Director, King County Department of Transportation (KCDOT)
Laurie Brown, Deputy Director, KCDOT
Ron Posthuma, Assistant Director, KCDOT
Kevin Desmond, General Manager, Metro Transit Division, KCDOT
Victor Obeso, Deputy General Manager, Metro Transit Division, KCDOT
Betty Gullledge-Bennett, Supervisor, Community Relations and Communications, KCDOT